

Weekly Weather Crop Report

In cooperation with

Mississippi Department of
Agriculture and Commerce

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Week Ending August 29, 2004

Released: 3:00 P.M., August 30, 2004

According to the Mississippi Agricultural Statistics Service, there were 4.1 days suitable for fieldwork for the **week ending August 29, 2004**. Harvesting activities were hampered by the precipitation that arrived in the state over the weekend. Warmer temperatures have helped cotton growth with farmers hoping for decent returns once harvesting begins in a few weeks. Warm season forages continue to be harvested with seed bed preparation for winter forages already taking place. Soil moisture was rated 1 percent very short, 14 percent short, 75 percent adequate and 10 percent surplus.

Progress In Percentages						Conditions in Percentages				
Item	Event	This Week	Last Week	2003	5-Yr Avg	Very Poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
Corn	Dent	99	99	99	99	1	3	16	47	33
	Mature	97	90	84	90					
	Harvested	56	40	35	50					
	Silage Harvested	98	96	99	94					
Cotton	Setting Bolls	100	100	99	100	2	7	23	48	20
	Open Bolls	39	22	38	59					
Rice	Heading	100	100	99	97	0	1	11	57	31
	Mature	60	40	44	48					
	Harvested	11	3	12	9					
Sorghum	Turning Color	100	97	99	99	0	1	17	68	14
	Mature	90	75	82	85					
	Harvested	45	24	29	40					
Soybeans	Setting Pods	100	100	100	100	1	4	13	47	35
	Turning Color	78	70	58	58					
	Shedding Leaves	62	50	41	41					
	Harvested	38	25	22	14					
Hay (Warm Season)	Harvested	76	74	86	83	5	18	25	40	12
Sweetpotatoes						1	8	37	44	10
Cattle						3	7	16	57	17
Pasture						4	10	19	54	13

County Agent Comments

"Rains and cloudy weather continue to impede harvest and the maturing of cotton."

— Jerry Singleton, Leflore

"Cooler weather has slowed forage growth. Armyworms have decreased in intensity on hay fields and pastures. Recent rains should make soil preparation for winter forages much easier."

— Houston Therrell, Rankin

"Soil conditions remain too dry to support satisfactory plant growth. Fall armyworm pressure in pastures is very high with many acres of grass being destroyed. Many producers are electing not to spend the dollars necessary for insecticide treatments as they often fail to provide satisfactory control."

— Lamar Adams, Walthall

“Rainfall has been spotty and very isolated in areas. Producers badly need rainfall to help improve pasture land used for grazing. Vegetable producers are in need of rainfall to provide the boost needed for fall vegetable production.”

— Florieda K. Mason, Perry

“Rain is spotty. We have had scattered showers, and some areas have received adequate moisture, while others are a bit short.”

— Judith Breland, Stone

“The scattered rains that fell this week were badly needed. Sweetpotatoes and soybeans needed water to finish out. Corn and soybean harvest are under way with respectable yields being cut. Almost all cotton fields are reddish/purple and suffering. Several viral diseases are being seen in cotton as well.”

— Dr. Bill Burdine, Chickasaw

“Rain Saturday stopped all harvesting. Rice yield reports have been good. A few leaves have been knocked off of cotton, but very few.”

— Don Respass, Bolivar

“It had been dry in most areas of the county until we received rain over the weekend. Cotton growth and development is slower than normal. Corn and soybean harvest should start soon.”

— Melvin Oatis, Benton

“The rains have slowed bean harvest, but we were back on track by Wednesday. We should meet August delivery. The next question will be if the rainy spell will cause any seed quality issues later.”

— Stephen R. Winters, Grenada

“Periodic rainfall delayed corn and soybean harvest. Most cotton is cutting out and early planted cotton should be safe from tarnished plant bug and bollworm/budworm damage.”

— Jay Phelps, Pontotoc

“Harvest resumed Tuesday after rainfall last week. Most all yields are reported as good to excellent. Cotton is opening, but no defoliation has taken place.”

— Tommy Baird, Sunflower

“Soybean and corn harvesting were going well until scattered heavy rains started in some areas last week. Since that time, harvesting has been very scattered. Corn fields are beginning to lodge as a result of rains, poor stalk strength, and disease; timely harvesting is critical in order to salvage normal yields this year. Rains and warmer weather have been beneficial to cotton, giving hope that later fields may have a fair chance to mature.”

— Ernest Flint, Attala

“Harvesting of soybeans have come to a halt because of the scattered heavy rains we have received over the last week. The warm weather and rain have been great for cotton, giving hope that the later fields will produce the needed yield.”

— Kay Emmons, Montgomery

“Corn harvest has slowed down due to the recent rains. Yields are running about 25 bu/acre above our all-time county high. Soybean harvest is going slow due to the rain last week but yields are running above normal. We still are treating for stink bugs in our later planted soybeans.”

— Dr. Dennis B. Reginelli, Noxubee

“Harvesting of Group IV soybeans is under way. Corn harvest started toward the end of the week until rain late on Saturday afternoon stopped the harvest.”

— Mark Mowdy, Franklin

“Hot weather and humid conditions persist. We have received thunderstorms in some part of the county every day. Lots of hay is being put up. Cotton and peanuts continue to look good. There is some resurgence of interest in harvesting grass seed; however, some harvested seed are light weight.”

— Lee Taylor, Forrest

“Rains early in the week delayed field operations, but were welcomed by those planting winter grazing crops. Some fall field operations were delayed, but they will resume this week.”

— Victor Lee, Newton

“Warm season forages continue to be harvested. Corn is now being harvested. Seed bed preparation began for planting winter forages. Deer hunters are going full speed planting wildlife food plots.”

— Allen McReynolds, Wayne

Additional comments appear on the Internet at: <http://www.nass.usda.gov/ms/cwyears.htm>

This publication is part of a series that first began in 1872 and has been continuously published since. In Mississippi, this report is a result of the cooperative efforts of:

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Weather Summary from August 23, 2004 to August 29, 2004 for Mississippi

District/Station	Air Temperature					Precipitation				4 Inch Soil Temperature			Avg Pan Evap
	Max	Min	Avg	Norm	DFN	One Week	DFN	Rain Days	Four Weeks	Max	Min	Avg	
1. Upper Delta													
Charleston				78		2.37	+1.65	2	5.19				
Cleveland				79		1.56	+1.18	2	2.59				
Tunica				78		0.95	+0.40	1	1.40				0.29
Extreme/Average				79		1.63	+1.07	2	3.06				0.29
2. North-Central													
Hickory Flat	90	64	79	77	+2	0.61	-0.23	2	1.98				
Calhoun City	90	67	79	78	+1	1.74	+1.02	4	4.01				
Independence	90	63	79	78	+1	2.67	+1.97	4	3.54				
Oxford	92	65	81	77	+4	1.46	+0.67	3	2.20				
Extreme/Average	92	63	79	78	+1	1.62	+0.88	3	2.93				
3. Northeast													
Booneville	91	66	78	77	+1	1.19	+0.42	5	2.00				
Iuka	91	59	75	75	0	7.43	+6.56	4	8.78				
Ripley	90	62	77	77	0	0.75	+0.08	2	2.23				
Tupelo	92	66	78			1.96		3	3.58				
Verona				79		1.82	+0.90	4	2.82				0.20
Extreme/Average	92	59	77	78	-1	2.83	+2.09	4	4.15				
4. Lower Delta													
Moorhead	98	70	84	80	+4	0.35	-0.18	3	1.79				
Rolling Fork	95	69	83	80	+3	0.71	+0.15	2	1.37	98	77	85	
Stoneville	93	70	82	80	+2	1.20	+0.75	2	2.14	99	78	86	0.23
Yazoo City	94	68	81	81	0	0.79	+0.09	3	2.61				
Extreme/Average	98	68	83	80	+3	0.76	+0.20	3	1.98	99	77	86	0.23
5. Central													
Canton				80		1.01	+0.36	3	2.91				
Carthage	92	68	79	79	0	3.70	+2.93	3	9.16				
Lexington	92	67	79	78	+1	1.55	+0.92	3	3.06				
Eupora	92	65	79	78	+1	1.76	+1.07	3	4.28				
Extreme/Average	92	65	79	79	0	2.34	+1.61	3	5.50				
6. East-Central													
Aberdeen	91	69	79	78	+1	1.81	+1.15	5	2.69				0.13
Houston	91	65	79	77	+2	0.49	-0.25	5	3.17				
Louisville				78		2.28	+1.61	5	3.85				
State University	94	66	80	79	+1	3.19	+2.46	5	3.53	85	78	81	0.17
Extreme/Average	94	65	79	79	0	1.94	+1.20	5	3.31	85	78	81	0.15
7. Southwest													
Crystal Springs	93	69	81	80	+1	0.09	-0.79	1	3.15	91	80	85	
Natchez	93	69	81	80	+1	1.06	+0.15	4	1.20				
Oakley	94	68	82	79	+3	0.46	-0.38	3	4.35	94	79	85	
Vicksburg	91	70	81			0.48		4	5.26				
Extreme/Average	94	68	82	80	+2	0.52	-0.39	3	3.49	94	79	85	
8. South-Central													
Collins	93	69	82	79	+3	0.69	-0.22	2	1.63				
Columbia	94	70	83	80	+3	1.05	+0.07	1	6.09				
Tylertown	93	72	82	80	+2	2.46	+1.48	2	7.80				
Extreme/Average	94	69	82	80	+2	1.40	+0.42	2	5.17				
9. Southeast													
Beaumont	95	70	81			2.27		4	3.00				
Hattiesburg	94	71	82	81	+1	0.49	-0.56	3	3.26				
Laurel	93	70	81	80	+1	2.41	+1.50	4	5.80				
Newton	93	64	79	79	0	1.72	+0.89	3	3.85	88	73	79	0.16
Extreme/Average	95	64	81	80	+1	1.72	+0.88	4	3.98	88	73	79	0.16
10. Coastal													
Bay St Louis				81		0.23	-1.08	1	2.67				
Gulfport	94	72	83	82	+1	0.18	-1.14	1	3.25				
Poplarville	95	70	82	81	+1	0.18	-0.87	3	4.34	91	76	84	0.21
Waveland	92	72	83	81	+2	0.00	-1.35	0	1.96				
Extreme/Average	95	70	83	81	+2	0.12	-1.16	1	3.18	91	76	84	0.21
State	98	59	81	79	+2	1.50	+0.70	3	3.76	99	73	82	0.21

DFN = Departure from Normal.